

## A DEFENSE FOR OUR WOMEN.

Captain Gilmer Writes From the Philippines—False Statements.

[From the Philippine Islands.]

Col. E. E. Cooper, Dear Sir—Your letter and The Americans were received and I beg to state that I enjoyed the contents of each with satisfaction. I will subscribe for your paper (just as soon as I get in a town where there is a money order post office) to be sent to 123 W. McCulloch, St., Greensboro, N. C., and after Mrs. Gilmer reads it, it will be sent to me. I have not the time to write you as I want to about things in general relative to this country, but I shall take time enough to tell you that a certain article which have appeared in some of our American papers written by a white 1st lieutenant of our army here contains among other things some false statements. In his article he states that the Filipino women are superior to our American colored women, which is false. The gentleman who wrote it, is either ignorant or had a desire to dispense with facts. I think the cause for a man to write such a false is due to the following: In the United States white people do not socialize with the refined element of our race generally, therefore they never see the flower. In this country (outside of Manila) there are no other women here in equal numbers for the whites to associate with, in the far places of pleasure except Filipino women, who are for behind our American colored girls in civilization as the United States is behind Great Britain in age. When I say our girls, I mean the representative ladies of the race and not the class that is most commonly known and seen by the passing public. I have visited some fiestas here in company with white officers, and aside from the waltzing by the native woman, I have been disgusted with some of their "customs" when compared with our American colored girls; while on the other hand I could overhear some white officer say to another "that's find for them they beat the American Negroes," which would probably prompt them to write the same rot to American papers. If people who desire to write would regard the truth and the existing facts and not write what they think on account of ignorance, the greatest benefit of such honesty would go to the Negro race, which suffers at all times in fool articles written by some Americans who don't know what they are talking about. So far as the virtue of these women are concerned, I have no right to speak for no man can speak truthfully of the virtue of any race. The virtue of any race should not be judged by the putas of that race. In the near future I hope to have time enough to find you some Oriental keepsakes and write you a detailed account of some of the many things of interest to you in this country.

I am most respectfully,

D. J. G.

Mr. Fred W. Hedge, who has charge of the Mammoth Coon Cake Walk and Jubilee Entertainment at Convention Hall next Monday night, has secured the brightest selection and "smartest" set of cake walkers in the country. The The Marine Band has arranged special ragtime music for the dance. Mr. Hedge has shown great executive ability in the management of the affair.

Mrs. R. H. Henderson of 1221 W. St. who has been ill for several weeks is now recovering rapidly, and her many friends are glad to see her out again.

Colored Women Meet.  
(Continued from first page)

her advancement; and the dispute over these rights and capabilities is as old as science. All who have the ability should have the liberty to shape a career regardless of sex. The barring of Negroes from many trades and professions is in a measure largely responsible for the poverty stricken condition of our race."

The aim of this club is to open a Woman's Exchange with an employment bureau attached and also where that greatest of things—charity—can be dispensed.

The president of the Federation, Mrs. M. J. Jackson read a short but well prepared paper treating of the work of various clubs. She congratulated the good work being done by the clubs all along the line, and said she was pleased at the rapid growth of club work. She urged club women to take for a guide in their work, the Bible, from which said she, "Many great organizations can be formed."

On the second day a set of resolutions were presented by Mrs. R. C. Ransom denouncing the recent action of the National Federation of Women's Clubs at Milwaukee, in refusing to admit Mrs. Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin of Boston as a delegate.

The day closed with an election of officers. As is the case in all club or political affairs the election of president was a hotly contested one. The nominees, Mrs. Jackson, Curl and Moore are all prominent in club work and after much discussion balloting and more discussion Mrs. Jackson was reelected. A banquet was served the delegates and friends and all adjourned to meet in Peoria next summer.

John B. Tanner calmly announces the fact that he has enough votes to elect him United States Senator. Angels and ministers of grace defend us! What has Illinois done to deserve such a humiliation?

Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, president of the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs addressed an audience at the Institutional church on November 23rd on "The Bright Side of the Race Question." The lecture was a donation in behalf of the kindergarten fund of said church. Mrs. Terrell was greeted by a body of Chicago's representative citizens and her lecture was listened to with rapt attention and was interrupted by frequent outbursts of applause. Among other things she said:

"He who would pose to day as a philosopher must be a pessimist. Looking on the dark side has been popular so long that even those who can see the other side omit to mention it. Nothing could militate against the race more than the idea of their total depravity. Snatch from a people their hope and the doom of that people is sealed. It is necessary at present to emphasize the Negroes' virtue and not dwell in his vices which have been terribly exaggerated. By nature the Negro is light hearted and looks on the bright side of things; but he is discouraged by the warnings that he is sure to fail. The strongest fact in his favor is his insatiable love of learning."

While in the city Mrs. Terrell was the guest of Dr. and Mrs. D. H. Williams. She left for St. Louis Monday morning.

At a meeting of the Old Tippecanoe Club in the Sherman House yesterday it was decided to send a memorial to Congress asking that action be taken looking toward the fair treatment of Negroes in Southern States.

The pupils of the colored High School made a very appropriate offering to the "Home for Friendless Colored Girls", corner of 16th and Erie streets, N. W. The Principal, Prof. R. H. Terrell, requested each pupil to bring a contribution to the poor—at least one apple or one potato. The result of this method of reaching the boys and girls was nearly two barrels of potatoes as other vegetables; a half barrel of apples and some other fruit, and two dollars and a half in money. All of these articles were turned over to Mrs. Jno. A. Pierre for the Home in which she is so interested. The Thanksgiving of the friendless girls will be made better by this action and the seven hundred and fifty pupils of the High School will feel happier and enjoy their own holiday the more for having done a graceful and generous act.

## THE GRAND FOUNTAIN.

# United Order of True Reformers.

ORGANIZED January 1, 1881.

Offices 604, 606 and 608 N. 2nd St., - - Richmond, Va.

An order devoted to the interests of its members, both in their home and business relations. We offer you an opportunity for gilt edged business investment, in enterprises owned and controlled by the Order and managed by colored men, who are members of the Order.

If you are sound in health and mind, of good moral character, not younger than three (3) years nor older than sixty (60) you are eligible to membership. There are two Fountains, the Subordinate and the Rosebud.

## SUBORDINATE FOUNTAINS.

To join the Subordinate Fountain you must be between 14 and 16 years of age. You pay \$4.60 to \$6.60 (according to age,) as joining fee. If you live in the country you pay 35 cents per month as dues; if in the city, 50 cents per month. You pay as taxes 80 cents per month.

As Sick Benefits you receive from \$6.00 to \$9.00 per month, in weekly payments.

As Death Benefit, your family receives \$75.00 if you die within a year. After one year the Death Benefit is \$125.00.

## ROSEBUD FOUNTAINS.

To join the Rosebud Fountain you must be between 3 and 14 year of age. You pay \$1.00, either cash or by installments. The monthly dues are either 15 or 25 cents as Fountains may decide. The annual tax is 10 cents. You receive as Sick Benefit from \$1.50 to \$4.00 per month, in weekly payments.

As Death Benefit, your family will be paid \$24.50 if you die within a year. After one year the Death Benefit is \$37.

In the INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, there are Three (3) Classes:—Class B, Class E, and Class M. All dues are payable annually or quarterly.

In Class B, the age limit is 14 to 60 years. Fee, \$2.50 to \$4.25. Annual dues, \$4.75 to \$7.60. The Certificate is valued first year at from \$100 to \$33. After one year, its value is \$200 to \$65.

In Class E, the age limit is 14 to 55 years. Fee, \$5 to \$6.50. Annual dues, \$9.50 to \$11.40. The Certificate is valued first year at from \$250 to \$175. After one year its value is \$500 to \$800.

In Class M, the age limit is 14 to 50 years. Fee \$11 to \$13.50. Annual dues, \$21 to \$25. The certificate is valued from date of issue at from \$1,000 to \$700.

You are entitled to a Life Membership in either of the Fountains or in Classe B and E upon purchase of the required amount of Bank stock, which pays a dividend annually of 20 per cent.

The Grand Fountain United Order of True Reformers has paid up to July 29, 1900, a total of 3782 Death Benefits, with a grand total of \$321,264.75, over a HALF MILLION DOLLARS.

THE BANK.—In our Savings Bank the Order has a sound and flourishing institution that is a credit not only to the Order but the race as well. It began business April 3, 1889. The capital stock is \$100,000. The business is the same as that of any other regularly constituted bank, and is surrounded by the same safeguards. The stock sells for \$5.00 a share to members, and pays 20 per cent. dividends. Both time and demand deposits are received and 4 per cent. interest is paid on time deposits. The following is a copy of the Cashier's report to Auditor of Public Accounts of Virginia at close of business Sept., 5, 1900 and shows its flourishing condition:—

RESOURCES.		LIABILITIES.	
Loans and discounts .....	\$8,272 80	Capital stock paid in .....	88,125 00
Other stock, bonds and mortgages .....	164,423 83	Surplus fund .....	80,667 81
Due from National Banks ...	48,363 22	Undivided profits .....	6,829 80
Banking House .....	14,000 00	Demand certificate of deposit .....	96,786 23
Other real estates .....	99,588 00	Time certificates of deposit .....	118,424 74
Furniture and Fixtures .....	6,850 00	Total .....	391,120 84
Current expenses and taxes paid .....	1,388 99		
Specie, nickels and cents ...	12,399 80		
Paper currency .....	35,820 00		
Total .....	391,120 84		

The Reformer's Grocery and Feed Store is located at 501 North Sixth St., Richmond, Va., and members of the Order and the public generally are saved 20 per cent. on the cost of food products.

THE REFORMER is the newspaper published by the order from its own office in Richmond, Va. It stands for the voice of the people, representing co-operation and combination of the race and is the Beacon Light, the Headlight, the General Messenger and the General Agent of the Brotherhood. It is \$1.00 per year. A well equipped job office bids for the work of the people, which is turned out in first class style and at low prices.

Six miles from Richmond, in Henrico County, Va., the Order has purchased 634 acres of land, and established thereon an "Old Folk's Home". With unexampled liberality and broad-minded generosity, the Order does not limit entrance to this home to its members alone, nor even to members families, but the doors are opened to the aged and decrepid of the whole race, regardless of their residence or connections. The Order makes itself the trustee for this glorious charity, and calls upon the whole people, black and white, North, East, South and West to assist by their contribution the carrying out of this praiseworthy idea. April 3rd of each year is set apart as a Grand Rally Day. Contributions can be forwarded to the cashier of the Reformer's who will send receipt for same and account for it to The Grand Fountain.

Members of the Order and the public, when visiting Richmond, are invited to stop at The Hotel Reformer, 900 North Sixth St. It is a desirable location. Service is of the best and rates are reasonable.

The Real Estate Department manages and controls all property for the Order. The Order now owns 13 buildings, 4 farms, 4 lots with a fee simple value of \$123,500. In addition to these the buildings.

For any further information, address

W. L. TAYLOR, G. W. Master.

W. P. BURRELL, Secretary.